COOKIA

Journal of the Wellington Shell Club, New Zealand

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THE RECENT PECTINOIDEA OF THE NZ REGION

SHELLING ON KICE ISLAND, FLORIDA

PARIS SHELL SHOW 2008

KAPITI COAST FINDS

LIMPETS THAT WEREN'T THERE

Editor's Choice

Xenophora neozelanica neozelanica Suter, 1908, 82mm wide including attachments – Ian Townsend collection.

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FRONT COVER PHOTO:
Cookia sulcata (Gmelin, 1791)
Collected from Marfells Beach,
New Zealand by Pat Lakeman.

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Editorial

During 2008 many of our club members were able to enjoy trips to various locations both within New Zealand and overseas. Some of these ventures feature in this issue.

We also had the opening of the Taputeranga Marine Reserve in September which will impact on club members collecting along our south coast.

In October the club ran a shell auction with over 170 lots – this was our first auction in five years and we greatly appreciated the presence of 5 members from Auckland and Whakatane. There was much enjoyment and bargains to be had during this day long event.

We have been greatly encouraged by the arrival of numerous new members to the club. It is worth noting two who have enjoyed some several months with us in New Zealand having come here from the USA to work temporarily and more particularly spend every moment of spare time collecting shells – Ken and Alice Piech – we thoroughly enjoyed having you as part of our club and look forward to continued contact.

We also look forward to what 2009 has to offer and particularly think of the National Shell Show to be held in Auckland 27-29 March 2009. This is an event worth making the trip north to attend.

The Recent Pectinoidea of the New Zealand Region (Mollusca: Bivalvia: Propeamussiidae, Pectinidae and Spondylidae)

Henk H. Dijkstra and Bruce A. Marshall

Molluscan Research Vol 28, No 1, March 2008.

REVIEWED by Pat Lakeman

This is a comprehensive review of the 54 species of Pectinoidea known from the NZ Exclusive Economic Zone (NZEEZ) (territory bounded at 200 miles) and adjacent waters. The 54 species comprise 30 species of Propeamussiidae (11 of these are new species); 17 Pectinidae and 7 Spondylidae. Of the fifty species recorded from the NZEEZ, 8 are described as new, 9 are new records, and 46% are restricted endemic. There are two new synonomies and several referrals to new genera.

A key finding of the paper is that "settlement by sponges triggers dramatic, characteristic and irreversible sculptural changes in *Talochlamys dichroa* and *Zygochlamys delicatula*". This has implications for interpretation of Pectinoidea world-wide, since the condition may occur in other species from elsewhere, including fossils.

Propeamussiidae

All of the 11 new species identified in the paper are within the family Propeamussiidae, where the 30 species are divided into 6 different genera as follows:

Propeamussium – 3 species – none are endemic; *P. investigatoris* is a new record from north-east of North Island at 176-660m; *P. sibogai* is found in the NZ region at Kermadec Islands and is distinctive in its large size (height up to 60mm).

Parvamussium – 6 species, some endemic, ranging in maximum height from 7 to 17mm. *P. cancellorum* is described as new.

Cyclopecten – 7 species, some endemic, the largest having maximum height of 13mm. Two new species: *C. flexuosus* and *C. textus*.

Cyclochlamys – 11 species, all are small (ranging in maximum height from 1.5 to 5mm) except *C. lemchei* which is relatively large at up to 6.22mm high. Seven species are new: *C. austrina*, *C. bacata*; *C. delli*; *C. irregularis*; *C. munida; C. pileolus; C. wanganellica.*

Catillopecten – 2 species, 1 new: *C. tasmani*. Neither found around mainland NZ.

Sinepecten – 1 species, not endemic, up to 24mm high and living on active submarine volcanoes on the Kermadec Ridge.

Pectinidae

No new species appear in the family Pectinidae, and nearly all of the 17 species recorded are assigned to separate genera:

Hyalopecten

Pecten – 2 species

Annachlamys

Ciclopecten

Delectopecten

Austrochlamys

Pascahinnites

Talochlamys – 3 species

Veprichlamys

Zygochlamys

Cryptopecten

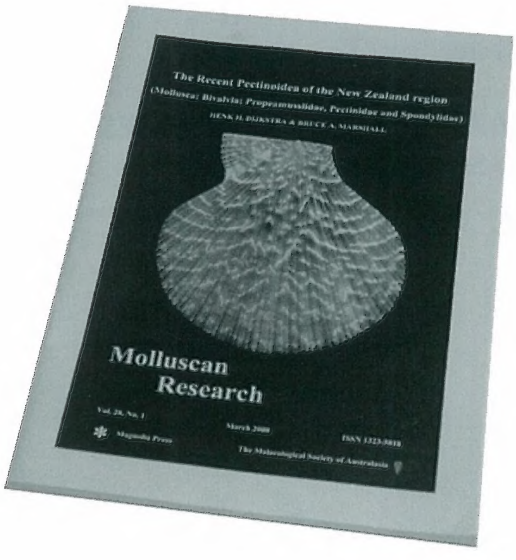
Mimachlamys

Pseudamussium

Mesopeplum

Most of the species in Pectinidae are not found in coastal waters of mainland New Zealand and/or occur only in very deep water. The exceptions are the Pectinoidea with which NZ shell collectors are most familiar – including the endemic, common and commercially important *Pecten novaezelandiae*. It has a wide but patchy distribution around New Zealand's four main islands (locally abundant, but rare or absent over large areas, such as the eastern South Island).

The genus *Talochlamys* contains 3 endemic species. In this paper *Chlamys consociata* is synonymised with *Talochlamys dichroa*, the endemic, locally common species of up to about 40mm in height. This had previously been considered a scarce southern species. In fact a form morphologically identical to southern specimens is common off the Three Kings Islands and on Ranfurly Bank, East Cape. It is evidently a cool-adapted species, with northern populations probably able to thrive due to local upwelling. The minimum depth for the living animal seems likely to be about 70m.


The Recent Pectinoidea of the New Zealand region
(Mollusca: Bivalvia: Propeamussiidae, Pectinidae and Spondylidae)
HENK H. DIJKSTRA & BRUCE A. MARSHALL
Molluscan Research

Talochlamys gemmulata is common, found NZ-wide at depths of 0-805m and taken alive at 20-293m. It attains larger size in the south of its range, notably at Stewart Island (height up to 68mm). The largest living specimen seen from north of East Otago is from Cook Strait and has a height of 46mm. No living North Island specimen has been seen to exceed 37mm height, though old, larger specimens (up to about 60mm, and indistinguishable from the southern *suteri* form) have been dredged from various North Island locations. This suggests that the large *suteri* form is a response to low sea temperatures in northern locations during glacial maxima.

Talochlamys zelandiae is found NZ-wide at depths of 0-1006m and taken alive intertidally to 549m. It is common throughout its geographic range and locally sympatric with *T. gemmulata* which is more finely sculptured.

Zygochlamys delicatula is locally common in southern NZ and is commercially harvested, being found at depths of 60-644m (alive to 549m) though living considerably shallower than 60m at Campbell Island. This species had been assigned to the genus *Psychrochlamys* (as *P. subantactica delicatula*) in 2003 by H.A Jonkers but in this paper *Psychrochlamys* is synonymised with *Zygochlamys*.

Mesopeplum convexum is endemic, locally common off the four main islands of NZ, found at depths of 0-274m and taken alive at 15-202m.

Spondylidae

All of the 7 species of Spondylidae are assigned to the genus *Spondylus* (the only genus in this family); none are new species. Four of the species – *S. occidens, S. proneri, S. sparsispinosus* and *S. jamarci* – are new records for NZ, and new distribution records are provided for *S. asperrimus* and *S. proneri* in the south-west Pacific. Only *S. sparsispinosus* has a distribution that includes mainland NZ (from shells found off White Island, Bay of Plenty, in 162-407 m).

Shelling on Kice Island, Florida

by Kris Woods

In March and April 2008 Roger and I spent ten glorious days in Florida, USA. We were guests of fellow Wellington Shell Club members Gary and Bernice Schmelz who live in Naples, South West Florida (Gulf of Mexico Coast).

One of the highlights of our stay (and there were so many highlights but that is perhaps another article for another time) was the shelling we enjoyed on Kice Island. This is a mangrove-fringed island off Marco Island, which is about 40 minutes south of Naples.

A shelling trip was one of the first items on everyone's agenda. I can't imagine why! Just a small aside here – shell collecting is a popular hobby for many Floridians. Indeed, Florida has a state shell, the horse conch – *Pleuroploca gigantea.* I was determined we weren't coming back to New Zealand without finding one of these and its condition didn't matter at all.

We set off from Marco Island in Gary's boat. The day was warm, the water was crystal blue, bottlenose dolphins swam beside us and birds flew overhead. It really was paradise.

Kice Island was just a short boat trip and our first stop was quickly reached. Stretched out on the white sand was a long drift piled high with shells in good condition (all dead or empty). Out came

our bags and off we went. Bivalves rather than gastropods were present. *Macrocallista nimbosa* (Sunray Venus), *Argopecten gibbus* (Calico Scallop) and *Dinocardium robustum* (Giant Atlantic Cockle) were plentiful. All were beautifully patterned. I assumed we'd be here for a while but all of a sudden Gary announced it was time to move on to better places on the island. Could any place be better than this?

The next stop answered that question very quickly. As Bernice and Gary tied the boat to a mangrove trunk (or was it one of a jungle of twisted roots?) Roger and I were greeted by masses and masses of shells. We fought and stumbled our way through the red mangrove roots picking up handfuls of shells as we went. All of us were picking up continuously from then on. You had to keep your eye on the mangroves but it did become easier and there were plenty of open spaces without this vegetation.

Beautiful specimens of *Macrocallista nimbosa* and *Argopecten gibbus* were piled high. Many had dead animals so you can imagine the aroma on our hands and shoes. The scallop wash-up was unbelievably large and the colour variation was wide. These scallops are commercially harvested in Florida, mostly on the Atlantic (Eastern) Coast. The *nimbosa* are edible as well. Quite a few single valves of *Cyrtopleura costata* were found.

Amongst these piles was a wide range of other shells. Gastropods in good numbers included: *Busycon contrarium*, *Busycon spiratum*, *Ficus communis* and fortunately *Pleuroploca gigantea*. Not quite as prevalent were: *Conus spurius*, *Conus floridanus, Melongena corona* ; *Strombus alatus*, *Fasciolaria lilium hunteria* and *Fasciolaria tulipa*. I was thrilled to find members of the Muricidae family: *Phyllonotus pomum* and *Chicoreus florifer dilectus*, both in quite good numbers. The other stunning murex found, was *Murex rubidus* (a treasured few). I have to say that whilst Gary and Bernice were collecting for themselves they were also frequently adding to my bag. Meanwhile, Roger was doing a fantastic job of filling his bag and mine. On more than one occasion he reminded me of excess baggage!

We returned to Naples in the afternoon and I was more than happy to sit for a couple of hours in the sun, cleaning shells. This was one of the few times when I haven't complained about shell cleaning. I had the warm sun, a cool drink, the chatter of birds, the company of inquisitive lizards and the Schmelz's beautiful bush setting. What more could one ask for?

I was most fortunate to be taken to Kice Island again, several days later. This time by Amy, one of Gary and Bernice's friends. Roger and Bernice skipped this trip and drove up to Fort Myers about one hour north of Naples. The spot we collected at this time was carpeted with shells as before. There were more specimens of those shells I have already mentioned only this time the *Argopecten gibbus* were even more abundant. We focussed on finding orange and pink scallops, the less common but very sought after colours of this species. We also found some excellent specimens of *Fasciolaria lilium hunteria* and *Fasciolaria tulipa*.

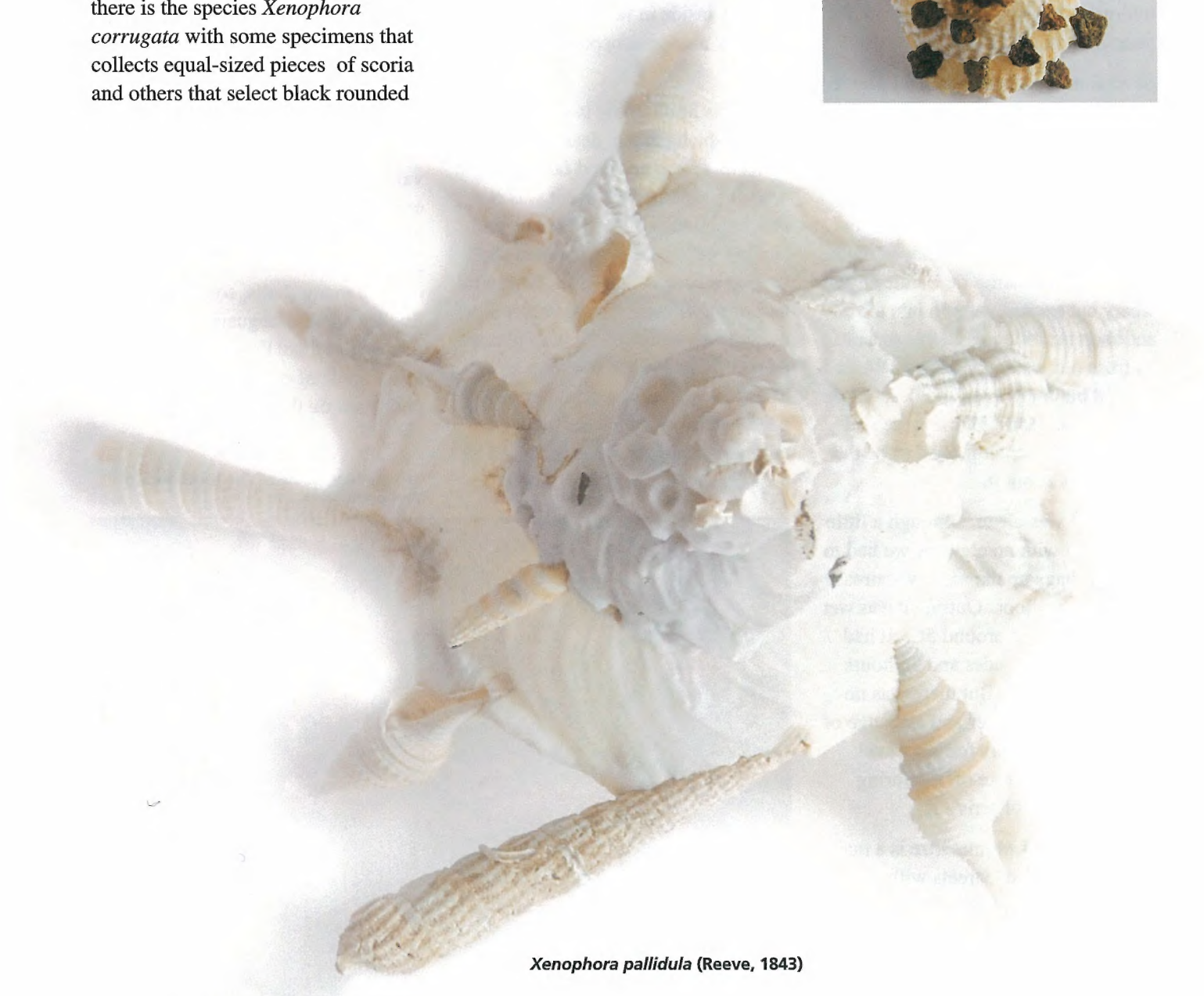
Roger and I are very grateful to Gary, Bernice and Amy. Shelling on Kice Island would not have been possible without their generosity. It was an experience to remember and one we would love to repeat!

All those ...ologists

by Ian Townsend

If you collect shells and study them in some way you can call yourself a conchologist. The Carrier Shells (Xenophoridae) also collect shells … but do they study them? It seems that *Xenophora pallidula* selects univalves according to size, colour and weight and our *Xenophora neozelanica* collects bivalves, and also likes to turn them upside down, to emphasise that there is no meaty meal here! Is there a distinction between this behaviour and some of our members who like to collect Strombids or Haliotidae? Then there is the species *Xenophora corrugata* with some specimens that collects equal-sized pieces of scoria and others that select black rounded pebbles to attach to their shells. Are they geologists? It is a shame that we degrade these wonderful animals by saying that they are simply opportunists, collecting whatever happens to be in their habitat (even if that is true), but it is nice to let the mind wander now and again, as in childhood, and have these off-beat thoughts. After all we can't have octopus and squids having anything like intelligence, can we? Humankind is far too arrogant for that.

Above and below: *Xenophora corrugata* (Reeve, 1842).



***Xenophora pallidula* (Reeve, 1843)**

Paris Shell Show 2008

by Roger Woods

The Bourse de Commerce, or the Stock Exchange, proved a little difficult to find. Armed with the address and a map Kris and I set off on foot from our accommodation just before 9 am, hoping to get in a little sightseeing on the way. With public opening time scheduled for 10 am we arrived on time but had to ask for directions at the last gasp when the final goal proved elusive. After spotting trestle tables covered with shells through a large window we knew we had arrived at the venue for the Paris Shell Show 2008. Free to enter, here was one the biggest international shell sales events of the year. An extravaganza!

Several months before we had decided to combine a long-planned holiday in Florida with a quick stopover at the Paris Shell Show 2008 before heading to the United States. Timings meant Paris was the first port of call on our travels and after several delayed flights we arrived at Charles de Gaulle airport weary but excited. A train into the city and short taxi ride was all that separated us from our accommodation. We had arrived but the photos and description of the Hotel Bonsejour that we had seen on the internet proved to be the best things about it.

Our room was clean, although a little small, and with no elevator we had to drag our bags up the narrow staircase to the second floor. Outside it was wet and quite cold at around 5C. It had taken us 4 plane rides and 36 hours from Wellington. But there was no rest! A quick shower and a change of kit worked wonders for our travel fatigue and we were off exploring within an hour of arriving.

The 'village' of Montmartre is a maze of narrow cobbled streets with apartments, tourist hotels, cafes, bars and small shops of different types. A hustle and bustle place it seemed. Lots of people around. Built on the highest point of Paris, Montmartre is in the 18th *arrondisement*, north of the city centre. Most of the area's buildings date from the last half of the nineteenth century. Motor scooters seem to be the favourite form of private transport and parking them on the narrow footpaths meant they became an obstacle course for the unwary. We soon found Sacré-Coeur, the famous domed basilica started in 1870, and did the obligatory tour. More exploring found the even more famous Moulin Rouge, a hang-out for models and playboys for more than a hundred years, however, we decided to forego the delights inside in favour of dinner at a the steak restaurant opposite. Delicious too!

The Paris Shell Show is an annual affair, which attracts dealers and collectors from near and far. Lasting 2 days the March 2008 event was our first experience of the wheeling and dealing that is the international shell trading business. The circular central hall of the Bourse de Commerce is magnificently decorated with painted friezes in the French boasting style. The floor area is vast and there were people all over the place. Lots of talking, money changing hands, all the trappings of big business. Shells everywhere too, all set out in row upon row with an attentive dealer presiding over them.

Where will we start? A friendly face in the form of Don Pisor, Specimen Sea Shells, California was nearby. Off we went to see him. Don had some spectacular shells for sale, including what turned out to be amongst the most expensively priced shells we saw at the show: a stunning murex, which was sold for well over 2000 euros later that day. Pressing on there were several more familiar names to be seen amongst the 50 or so dealers present.

As expected, the show was dominated by European dealers, but there were also dealers from South America, United States, Canada, Asia, Africa, New Caledonia and Australia. Prices varied from cheap and affordable to expensive and over priced. Quick introductions, mutual recognition in some cases, a chat and on to the next one. So many shells, so little time. English was the language of choice but rusty high school French proved handy on a couple of occasions. A few purchases on the way too.

Kris viewing some of the thousands of shells available.

After a couple of hours we had not seen half of it. And we were getting hungry. Saw people eating baguettes and drinking coffee and asked where these comestibles could be purchased. It transpired the Bourse was equipped with a basement cafe, which sold all varieties of lunchtime fare. And in keeping with every other civilised eatery in Paris it was licensed.

Having spent the first day's budget in the first morning, a visit to the ATM at the bank opposite the Bourse entrance proved necessary. Wading through the crowd of smokers exiled outside we made our way towards the ATM. Then we heard shouting and realised that there was a demonstration of some sort happening in the next street. Lots of Police too, including several on roller blades, marshalling the protestors. Shortly after we returned to the Bourse for the afternoon session the organisers locked the doors for security reasons. But the excitement soon passed. After a couple more hours we had got around everyone at least once. It was loads of fun.

We left the shell show around the middle of the afternoon on that first day to visit some of the tourist traps that abound in Paris, including the Eiffel Tower, Louvre, Notre Dame, Arc de Triomph and the Left Bank. All excellent spots.

The Paris Shell Show 2008 was not over, however, and the following day we returned ever hopeful of a cut-price bargain or something special that may have eluded us on the first visit. A bit like visiting the same beach when the tide is different.

Many of the tables remained busy but several dealers had sold out and were packing up to leave. Those that remained were happy to talk some more too. Excellent shell books were also available and after checking what was on offer a newly published volume was chosen as the next shell library acquisition. This proved to be a real hit when we returned to New Zealand but for us it has memories as the heaviest book in the world. It was sold in one of those nasty, cheap plastic bags that cut into your fingers, so for a few hours it was dragged around Paris with accompanying moans.

Alas, all good things usually come to an end. So it was the end of the Paris Shell Show 2008. A great shell event. It should be tried once in a lifetime. A friendly bunch, with a common interest makes for a really good time. A shelling adventure of a different kind. We'd love to go back one day.

Above and below: Dealers with their shells on display in the Bourse de Commerce.

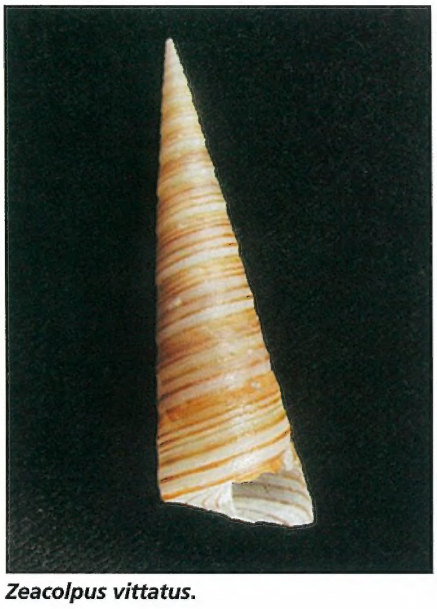
Kapiti Coast Finds

by Jenny Raven

Some interesting finds have been turning up on the Kapiti Coast this year. The winter has been particularly cold and wet. At the Shell Club meeting at the end of July, Club member and Kapiti Coast resident, Lorraine commented that there was a very strong surf rolling in that looked good for shells. A week later on the Saturday I went to Waikanae. The beach was strewn with wood and shells from the tide line to the back of the beach. There must have been hundreds of shells cast up. I spent over 2 hours moving an inch at a time through the debris. I went back the following Tuesday and the following Saturday. By the second Saturday the washup had rolled back to one far corner of the beach but still new finds were made. The usual Kapiti Coast shells were present: *Mactra, Dosinia*, large and colourful *Alcithoe arabica, Circomphalus yatei* (mostly small but well spined), *Semicassis pyrum, Gari lineolata* (with animal remains), *Peronaea gaimardi, Austrofusus glans, Struthiolaria papulosa, Tanea zelandica*, and *Calliostoma selectum.* There were also a few *Calliostoma waikanae* and *pellucidum, Divalucina cumingi, Pelicaria vermis* and small *Astraea heliotopium;* also one battered *Alcithoe fusus* and one very nice *Aeneator otagoensis.*

Of particular interest has been the return to the Kapiti coast in recent years of *Calliostoma selectum.* In the 1980s these shells were commonly found at Paraparaumu, Waikanae and Waikawa further north; then in the 1990s they all but disappeared. There were mutterings that the spread of paddle crabs (whose carapaces were commonly cast up) were responsible. Over the past five years members have been finding small quantities along the coast culminating in the large numbers found this year – most very fresh and large. Many of the ones I found at Waikanae still contained the dead animal and were covered in a mossy periostracum. One very good *Calliostoma waikanae* I found beside the stream entrance at the north end of Waikanae was also covered in periostracum. Most of the wash-ups this year have occurred north of Raumati; the areas further south from Paekakariki to Raumati have been unusually bare.

Wide debris field along Waikanae Beach.



Zeacolpus vittatus.

Earlier in the year at Pekapeka beach, north of Waikanae, I found a shell I had never collected from the coast before – *Zeacolpus vittatus*. It was lying on the low tide wet sand and as usual with Pekapeka was the only shell of note on the beach that day. This species is listed in the Wellington Shell Club lists as being found previously on the Kapiti Coast. It is also dredged in the Marlborough Sounds.

Some of the many species collected along Waikanae Beach.

Limpets that weren't there!

by Mary Agnes Wotton

A visit to the South Island in April of this year where my husband was attending a photographic convention, was a good opportunity for me to include some stops for shell collecting, look for *Notoacmea badia* and to obtain certain other *Notoacmea* species for Bruce Marshall at Te Papa.

The first place on my itinerary was Kekerengu, north of Kaikoura, which was the type locality of Oliver's *Notoacmea virescens* described in 1926. On our first day south we stopped there, although it was the wrong time for low tide, and the sea was like glass, not a wave in sight. The beach was just across the bridge, below The Store's parking area and accessed from a short track. On my own the next day, I headed back there from Kaikoura where we had stayed, mostly in pouring rain, arriving well before low tide. It was an onshore southerly, the sea a mass of seething waves washing over low, jagged, rocky outcrops several metres offshore. The beach here is sandy, covered in places with smooth pebbles. As the tide ebbed, slowly it seemed, some large rounded boulders were uncovered deeply embedded in the sand over a very small area and impossible to shift. Down on my knees, I examined each one minutely to discover there were no molluscs of any description living on any of them. With the strong seas the tide unfortunately did not recede very much so the rocky outcrops nearest to the shore were never completely uncovered before the tide turned. In any event it was too rough to try and access them. It would appear that the conditions when Oliver collected N. virescens in the 1920s had changed as there were almost no moveable rocks and the few that could be turned over had no molluscs on or under them. *N. virescens* typically prefers smooth, clean rocks. Oliver listed distribution for this species as being "on grey marls". These would be rocks similar to the platforms at Cape Campbell but I did not see any on this stretch of beach. Shell washups were almost non-existent.

Kekerengu Beach below the store.

Next stop was Gore Bay, following a 21km. loop road from Cheviot to the Cathedral Cliffs. This was a very attractive drive before arriving at a small parking area above the beach and adjacent to the Cliffs. A narrow track led down to an area of rocks directly below the Cliffs and here on the top of some of the highest ones, about 1.5 to 1.8 mtrs., were some large and beautifully marked *Notoacmea parviconoidea.* Also on the lower semi-soft grey rocks were *Cellana flava*, mostly small and very light coloured, *Cellana radians* and small *C. denticulata.* Our time here was limited as I also wanted to catch the low tide at Motunau, so we were not able to wait for it to drop completely. Some locals I encountered on the beach pointed out the still covered rock platforms which extended a long way out from the shore. At certain times, they said, there had been a lot of shell wash-ups but in all the years they had been coming there to their bach, it appeared that these had become less and less. The rock pools and platforms certainly appeared worth checking at low tide.

Motunau Beach, 18km. off State Highway 1 was next on the agenda. A muddy river flows out to the sea at one end of the beach, effectively cutting it in two so unless one is prepared to wade across in waist-high or deeper water, only one section of the beach is accessible, below the unstable limestone cliffs with a "DANGER" sign. The sandy estuary was uncovered at the low tide with large areas of small stones and rocks. *Notoacmea elongata* were abundant on the undersides of these but I was disappointed at the limited number and types of microspecies, nothing like the variety available at Island Bay in Wellington. Large solid rocks near the base of the cliffs were home to some very nice *Cellana flava* and *C. radians.*

From Timaru where the Convention was being held, I headed further south on my own to Katiki (Kartigi) Beach. This was undoubtedly the highlight for collecting localities. Several kilometers of white sand beach stretched northwards, with rock platforms and outcrops jutting up from close inshore to mid-tide. There were parking areas adjacent to the beach at several places and I stopped at the furthest one shortly before the turn-off to Shag Point. The low volcanic platforms were barely

being uncovered when I arrived so until the sun dried them, they were a little slippery to walk on.

The flat, slightly rounded platforms were covered with very large *Cellana strigilis redimiculum* and *Cellana radians*. Shell washups littered the beach behind them, mostly broken *Cookia sulcata* and I was later to discover why – as the tide receded exposing rock pools off the beach below where my car was parked, I lost count of the number of Cookias nestled up against the rocks, most covered with pink algae.

Katiki Beach looking towards Shag Point.

Katiki (Kartigi) is another limpet type locality – Powell's *Atalacmea multilinea* named in 1934. But although I diligently searched the small rock pools in the platforms, I was unable to find any.

Rock pools in the volcanic platforms – Katiki Beach.

Rock reefs run parallel to the sandy shore and are easily accessible when they are exposed at low tide. The sea was very gentle and the water clear. Washups on the beach north of the platforms but still below the car park were abundant although not a great variety. These were mostly limpets with large *Cellana stellifera* added to those previously mentioned and in addition, *Haliotis virginea*, and *H. australis*.

I interrupted my day here to drive another few kilometers along the side road to the reserve at Shag Point where there is a large fur seal colony.

Short tracks led to the edge of cliffs above the massive rocky ledges where the seals lay basking in the sunshine while seabird colonies occupied other ledges. At first it was hard to distinguish the seals as they were all lying somnolent in the heat and looked like dark coloured patches on the rock until one of them moved and suddenly they were all distinguishable. The rough seas here are not conducive to shell collecting.

Fur seals on rocks at Shag Point.

The rock reefs exposed at low tide alongside the sandy beach – Katiki Beach.

Once the tide at Katiki Beach turned, I headed to Moeraki Village where I had booked a cabin at the Holiday Park. With still a bit of time left before dark I explored the limited rock and sandy beach area below the main road and round towards the boat launching area but there were no shells at all. After a delicious dinner of fresh scallops in a bacon sauce at the famous Fleurs, I tried to see the yellow-eyed penguins somewhere near the lighthouse but was unfortunately too late as by that time it was already dark.

Early next morning, after a brief stop at Moeraki Boulders where I had last been in 1984, I arrived at Oamaru suffering from severe stomach cramps but was determined to get out to the Cape Wanbrow area, the last place on my intinerary. A stop at the I-site in the

lovely old section of Oamaru pointed me in the right direction to the Penguin Centre from where I headed off along Graves Track which runs high above the beach. At one point it descends to Boatmans Bay where there are some very interesting lava formations. The tide was going out quite nicely and in a dark crevice on a rock wall I found a small colony of *Notoacmea pileopsis*. Back up to the track again, I followed it along until it seemed to run out as it descended to beach level which was mainly flat rock platforms fringed with kelp on their seaward side.The beach between the shallow channels in the platforms was covered with small rounded stones but these had very little life on their undersides. I was also looking for *Notoacmea badia*, that elusive species, but no luck although I did find a very small dark limpet that seemed to take off quite rapidly whenever I turned over a stone on which it was. Limited washups included the small red lamp shell, quite abundant pairs as well as single valves, and a very nice *Haliotis virginea*.

I managed to finish my lunch but abandoned any thought of continuing along to Cape Wanbrow itself and headed back to my car and then to Timaru. Here I managed to see a doctor 14 kilometers out of town and ended up in Timaru Hospital's A&E until later that night when I was discharged, no one seeming to have any idea what was the cause of the cramps which cleared up with the prescribed antibiotics.

The following day I was collected by a friend and we checked out several beaches around Timaru, all bare including Caroline Bay although some species are beginning to colonise the rocks which have been placed on the seaward side of the Port extension. Apparently Evans Bay was the place for shells but it has now been filled in for more Port development. A walk on the far side of Caroline Bay the next day went only above the cliff with no access to the beach below and the rocks here were also artificially placed.

Looking towards Cape Wanbrow.

My last collecting site was Fossil Point at the base of Farewell Spit. Here I was looking for *Notoacma helmsi* whose type locality was Greymouth. Specimens had been collected here in the 1990s which were pretty much identical to the type species. Since I was having to coordinate with my husband who wanted to photograph sunset at Whahariki Beach, he dropped me at the Farewell Spit Visitor Centre about 1 hour before low tide. I set off to hike along the track to Fossil Point, not realizing that there were two ways of getting there, ending up taking the long way round. By the time I actually reached Fossil Point, it was deserted as the tour bus had gone as well as the few other people that I had seen from a distance. In the end it did not make much difference as the rocks at Fossil Point were all outcrops and all exposed at low tide. Most had very sharply pitted surfaces, not the sort of place which the small Notoacmeas would like although I checked all the little rock pools. There were no moveable rocks in this area, not even in the rock pools. So again no sign of *N. helmsi*. This time I took the shorter route across the paddocks back to the Visitor Centre which had closed then walked back along the road to Puponga opposite the camp which was the pre-arranged pick-up point. Here I settled myself on the grass warmly wrapped up and with a book to await my husband's arrival shortly after the sun set.

Rock platforms at Fossil Point.

Although not successful in all that I had been trying to find, the whole trip was a good exercise in checking out some hitherto little known South Island beaches and coastline to see whether any were useful collecting spots. And in conclusion, would definitely like to revisit Katiki Beach and Oamaru and close the gap along the coast from Katiki to Dunedin, the only section not yet visited in my search for *Notoacmea badia*.

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Records broken on club outings

by Jill Burnett

Thanks to Jenny Raven's trusty tide tables, we found that there was to be a good low tide in the middle of the day on the last weekend of October, 2007, which was also the weekend we were thinking of holding our meeting. So, combine the two, we thought. Where could we hold a meeting that would be handy for a bit of shell collecting beforehand? Becca Neal most obligingly allowed her arm to be twisted, and agreed to hold the meeting at her home, only two blocks from the beach at Eastbourne. Copies of the list of shells found at Eastbourne were extracted from Cookia Vol 14 and distributed beforehand, and the challenge was to find shells that weren't on the list. Well, we rose to that challenge, thanks not only to the low tide, but also I think to the stormy weather a few days prior to the meeting. By the day of the meeting, this had moderated to a light southerly, ideal for collecting at Eastbourne, and it had left behind a good washup of fresh seaweed. It was by poking among this that we found the most interesting shells. When Selwyn asked at the meeting who had been out on the beach, there was a great show of hands, and a lot of boxes and bags of shells were displayed. The most interesting finds are listed below; 'new record' indicates the species is not listed for this location, Eastbourne to Burdan's Gate, in Cookia, Vol 14.

Eastbourne, 28 October 2007

Cellana radians	new record
Cantharidus opalus	new record
Trochus tiaratus	new record
Struthiolaria papulosa	new record
Sigapatella tenuis	new record
Xymene ambiguus	
Solemya parkinsonii	new record
Glycymeris modesta	new record
Perna canaliculus	
Mytilus galloprovincialis	
Aulacomya atra maoriana	new record
Atrina zelandica	good place for these
Pecten novaezelandiae	
Oxyperas elongata	
Zenatia acinaces	new record
Dosinia anus	new record
Ruditapes largillierti	
Panopea zelandica	
Myadora striata	

The next month, there was another good low tide, and we decided to try the south coast, first at Island Bay and then moving on to Owhiro Bay. Jenny Raven ventured out on to the rocks and into the water to see what was living around the low tide mark, while I collected from the washups and the more accessible rock pools. We are still studying Island Bay, so you will have to wait to hear about that, but this is what we found at Owhiro Bay. We tried to note every species we saw.

Owhiro Bay, 24 November 2007

Eudoxochiton nobilis	new record
Chiton glaucus	common, live, new record
Notoplax violacea	common, live, new record
Cellana denticulata	common, live
Cellana ornata	new record
Cellana radians	common, live
Patella corticata	
Radiacmea inconspicua	
Haliotis iris	live, very common
Haliotis australis	few, live
Tugali suteri	
Cantharidella tessellata	
Cantharidus opalus	
Cantharidus purpureus	
Diloma arida	new record
Diloma bicanaliculata	
Diloma nigerrima	
Diloma subrostrata	new record
Diloma zelandica	new record
Melagraphia aethiops	live
Micrelenchus sanguineus	
Micrelenchus dilatatus	
Calliostoma punctulatum	juvenile
Cookia sulcata	
Modelia granosa	juvenile, new record
Turbo smaragdus	live, common
Maoricolpus roseus	new record
Nodilittorina antipodum	live, common
Sigapatella novaezelandiae	
Trichosirius inornata	new record
Tanea zealandica	
Argobuccinum pustulosum tumidum	
Dicathais orbita	
Haustrum haustorum	live
Buccinulum linea	
Buccinulum pallidum	
Cominella virgata	live, common
Siphonaria australis	live
Trimusculus conicus	
Barbatia novaezelandiae	
Aulacomya atra maoriana	
Modiolus areolatus	
Talochlamys zelandiae	
Cardita aoteana	
Paphies australis	new record
Macomona liliana	new record
Protothaca crassicostata	
Irus reflexus	new record

And, remembering the plea for Brachiopod records:

Calloria inconspicua

Notosaria nigricans

Visiting the Te Papa Mollusc Collection

by Selwyn Bracegirdle

One of the privileges the Wellington Shell Club has is the opportunity to occasionally meet at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa where Bruce Marshall is the resident Malacologist and Collection Manager of Mollusca. The accompanying photos were taken during our meeting in October 2008.

Wellington Shell Club meeting at Te Papa being chaired by Jenny Raven (standing).

Club members viewing many of the record sized shells in the Te Papa collection.

Kris Woods admiring specimens of *Alcithoe benthicola* in the Te Papa collection.

New Zealand Endemic Mollusks by Zvi Orlin

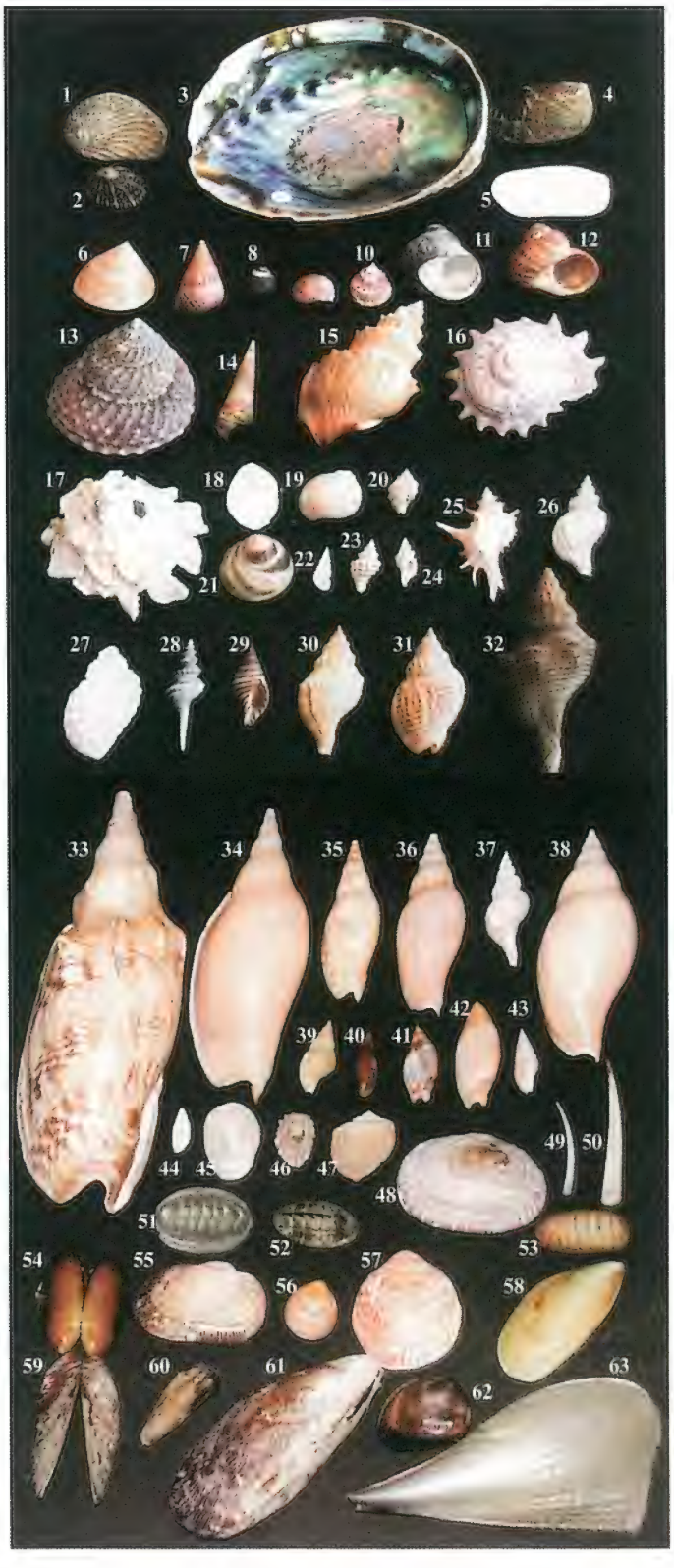
From American Conchologist Vol 36, No 1, March 2008

Far away in a corner of the S.W. Pacific Ocean is a beautiful and fascinating country, one of the most interesting locations for shell collectors. With 10,000km of coastline (roughly the same as the U.S.A.), innumerable bays, inlets and fjords, and no one living more than 130km from the coast, no wonder shell collecting is popular. It is one of the only countries in which researchers have published a detailed checklist of all the 2,900 species and subspecies found in their country and the surrounding waters.

Regrettably I visited New Zealand before I had started shell collecting and could only join their shell club later by email. They are not only a charming and friendly people, but also magnanimous, as I soon discovered. I could not find anyone to exchange shells with, as most of them only collect local shells, but many club members sent me shells I was seeking, without asking for anything in return! In very few countries can such generous people be found.

The range of New Zealand species, owing to the long coastline, is vast; with some tropical species off North Island, but cooler water species are predominant. The most amazing and interesting feature of New Zealand mollusk fauna is the endemism. Approximately 76% of the species are found only in New Zealand. This is not surprising as it was during the Triassic era (65 million years ago) that New Zealand separated from the Antarctic continent, and it has remained separate from other landmasses by thousands of kilometers of ocean for millions of years. Such a location is conducive to the evolution of endemic species. The other interesting feature is that about 75% of New Zealand shells are micromollusks with adult shells less than 10mm in length (see references). I have not encountered such a feature in any other country, but that may be just because there has been insufficient research and micros have not been properly collected and recorded. Some of the New Zealand

1 *Haliotis australis* Gmelin, 1791 52mm
2 *Cellana ornata* (Dillwyn, 1817) 31mm
3 *Haliotis iris* Gmelin, 1791 147mm
4 *Haliotis virginea virginea* Gmelin, 1791 57mm
5 *Scutus breviculus* (Blainville, 1817) 60mm
6 *Calliostoma selectum* (Dilwyn, 1817) 32mm
7 *Cantharidus opalus* (Martyn, 1784) 37mm
8 *Diloma arida* (Finlay, 1926) 19mm
9 *Zethalia zelandica* (Hombron & Jaquinot, 1855) 22mm
10 *Trochus viridis* Gmelin, 1791 20mm
11 *Turbo smaragdus* Gmelin, 1791 38mm
12 *Modelia granosa* (Martyn, 1784) 40mm
13 *Cookia sulcata* (Gmelin, 1791) 67mm
14 *Maoricolpus roseus* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1834) 56mm
15 *Struthiolaria papulosa* (Martyn, 1784) 83mm
16 *Astraea heliotropium* (Martyn, 1784) 78mm
17 *Xenophora neozelanica* Suter, 1908 70mm
18 *Maoricrypta monoxyla* (Lesson, 1830)
19 *Tanea zelandica* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1832) 30mm
20 *Lepsiella scobina* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833) 20mm
21 *Sigapatella terraenovae* (Peile, 1924) 31mm
22 *Boreoscala zelebori* (Dunker, 1866) 20mm
23 *Paratrophon quoyi* (Reeve, 1854) 24mm
24 *Prototyphis eos* (Huuton, 1873) 22mm
25 *Poirieria zelandica* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833) 52mm
26 *Xymene ambiguus* (Philippi, 1844) 45mm
27 *Lepsithais lacunosa* (Bruguiere, 1789) 45mm
28 *Coluzea spiralis* (A.Adams, 1856) 46mm
29 *Buccinulum linea* (Martyn, 1784) 32mm
30 *Austrofusus glans* (Roding, 1798) 51mm
31 *Cominella adspersa* (Bruguiere, 1789) 48mm
32 *Penion sulcatus* (Lamarck, 1816) 83mm
33 *Alcithoe arabica* (Gmelin, 1791) 153mm
34 *Alcithoe larochei* Marwick, 1926 118mm
35 *Alcithoe fusus fusus* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833) 60mm
36 *Alcithoe lutea* (Watson, 1822) 71mm
37 *Glaphyrina caudata* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833) 46mm
38 *Provocator mirabilis* (Finlay, 1926) 94mm
39 *Pareuthria campbelli* (Filhol, 1880) 28mm
40 *Mitra carbonaria* Swainson, 1822 28mm*
41 *Amalda australis* (G.B.Sowerby I, 1830) 28mm
42 *Amalda mucronata* (G.B.Sowerby I, 1830) 42mm
43 *Phenatoma rosea* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1833) 26mm
44 *Pupa kirki* (Hutton, 1873) 18mm
45 *Haminoea zelandiae* (Gray, 1843) 27mm
46 *Siphonaria australis* Quoy & Gaimard, 1833 22mm
47 *Amphibola crenata* (Gmelin, 1791) 25mm
48 *Benhamina obliquata* (G.B.Sowerby, 1825) 54mm
49 *Antalis nana* (Hutton, 1873) 40mm
50 *Fissidentalium zelandicum* (G.B.Sowerby, 1860) 56mm
51 *Chiton glaucus* Gray, 1828 37mm
52 *Sypharochiton pelliserpentis* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835) 31mm*
53 *Ischnochiton maorianus* Iredale, 1914 34mm
54 *Solemya parkinsonii* E.A.Smith, 1874 36mm
55 *Barbatia novaezelandiae* (E.A.Smith, 1915) 48mm
56 *Glycymeris modesta* (Angas, 1879) 20mm
57 *Tucetona laticostata* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835) 40mm
58 *Perna canaliculus* (Gmelin, 1791) 55mm
59 *Modiolus areolatus* (Gould, 1850) 53mm
60 *Zelithophagus truncata* (Gray, 1843) 34mm
61 *Aulacomya atra maoriana* (Iredale, 1915) 80mm
62 *Modiolarca impacta* (Hermann, 1782) 32mm
63 *Atrina zelandica* (Gray, 1835) 117mm
64 *Pecten novaezelandiae* Reeve, 1853 110mm
65 *Mesopeplum convexum* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835) 42mm
66 *Zygochlamys delicatula* (Suter, 1909) 40mm*
67 *Talochlamys dichroa* (Suter, 1909) 40mm
68 *Talochlamys zelandiae* (Gray, 1843) 31mm
69 *Cardita aoteana* Finlay, 1926 27mm
70 *Anomia trigonopsis* Hutton, 1877 47mm
71 *Cyclomactra ovata* (Gray, 1843) 62mm
72 *Mactra murchisoni* Deshayes in Reeve, 1854 60mm
73 *Macomoma liliana* (Iredale, 1915) 42mm
74 *Peronaea gaimardi* (Iredale 1915) 48mm
75 *Oxyperas elongata* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835) 70mm
76 *Zenatia acinaces* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1815) 53mm
77 *Resania lanceolata* Gray, 1853 72mm
78 *Paphies ventricosa* (Gray, 1843) 120mm
79 *Gari convexa* Reeve, 1857 72mm
80 *Dosina crebra* (Hutton, 1873) 42mm
81 *Soletellna nitida* (Gray, 1843) 43mm
82 *Tawera spissa* (Deshayes, 1835) 22mm
83 *Bassina yatei* (Gray, 1835) 52mm
84 *Protothaca crassicosta* (Deshayes, 1835) 48mm
85 *Dosinia subrosea* (Gray, 1835) 48mm
86 *Notocallista multistriata* (G.B.Sowerby II, 1851) 21mm
87 *Myadora striata* (Quoy & Gaimard, 1835) 35mm
88 *Irus elegans* (Deshayes, 1854) 30mm, 88a interior view
89 *Barnea similis* (Gray, 1835) 37mm, subadult, interior view
90 *Panopea zelandica* Quoy & Gaimard, 1835 86mm
91 *Offadesma angasi* (Crosse & P.Fischer, 1864) 80mm*



*Kindly note: four species on this list are not endemic (marked with an asterisk (*), but were added as they are typical of New Zealand mollusks in my collection.

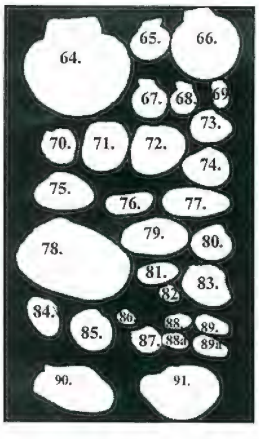
Photographs by my granddaughter Inbar Schneider.

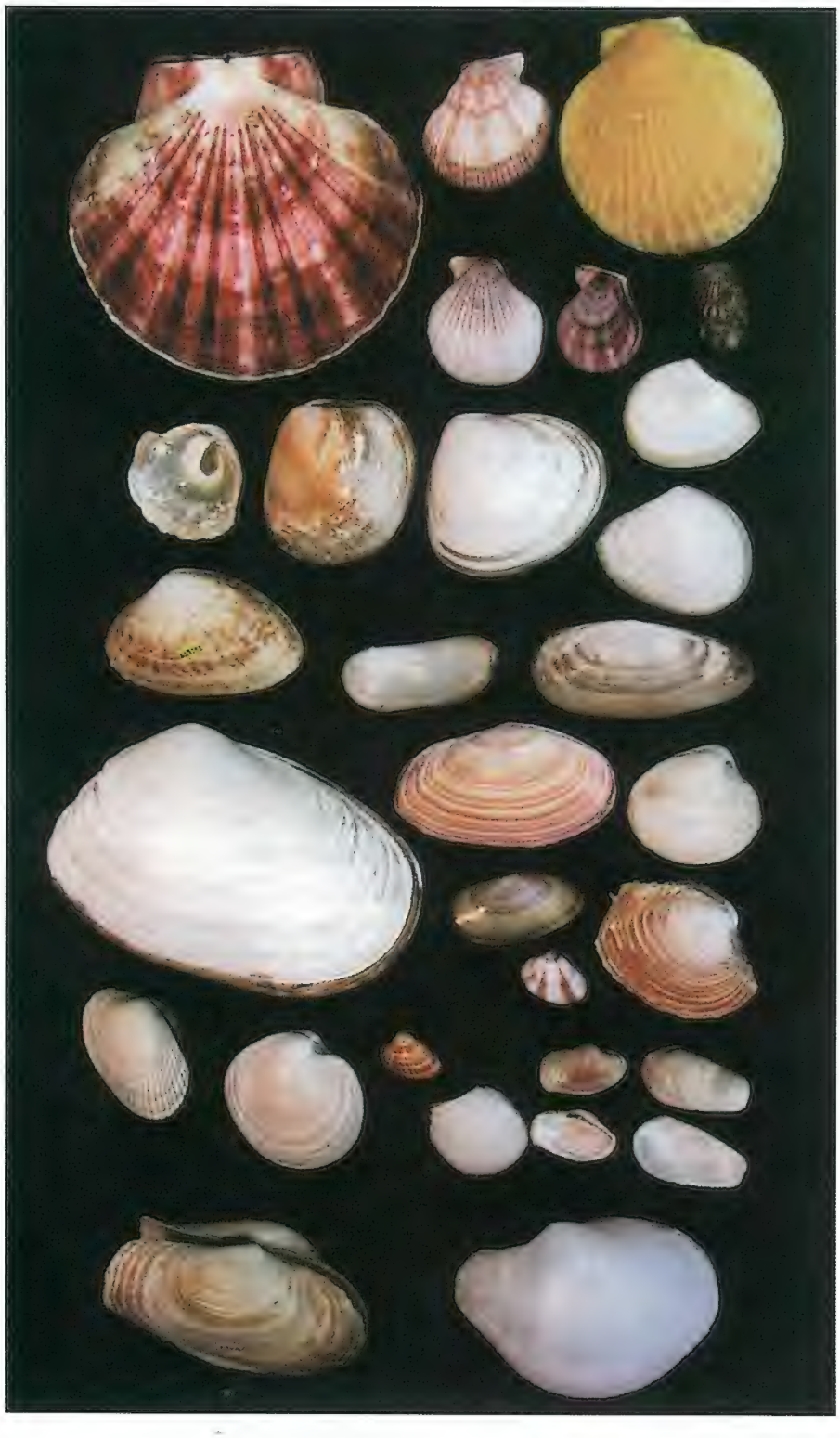
micros are quite beautiful in shape and sculpture, and have to be seen to be appreciated (a 2x to 10x lens helps). I personally collect micros as well as larger shells and have many in my collection.

The main purpose of this article is to draw attention to one of the unusual localities in which shells can be found and collected. It should be mentioned that the nearest neighbor to New Zealand is Australia to the west. In a

survey I conducted of the shared taxa of the Southern Ocean, New Zealand shared 157 genera with Australia, owing mainly to the close proximity of the two countries. New Zealand also shared 95 genera with the Magellanic Region of South America, despite the tremendous distance currently between these two areas. The shared taxa may be partly accounted for by their relative close proximity in former geological eras, prior to extensive continental drift. The two regions have fairly similar climatic conditions, which is no doubt an additional factor. With South Africa, there are only some 40 shared genera. This is possibly accounted for by the fact that in geological times South Africa drifted further north from Antarctica, with the resulting warmer climatic conditions that affected the evolution of its mollusks.

Included here are some photos of a few of the New Zealand shells in my collection, some of which are perhaps not known to many collectors. I hope you enjoy the shells from this wonderful place as much as I do.





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Notes on New Zealand Collected Species

Clanculus peccatus
(Finlay 1926)

In the last issue of *Cookia* I wrote on *Pictobalcis articulata* from Taupiri Bay on Northland's east coast. Despite a trip to Chatham Islands in October 2007, I think my best shell finds in the last year have again come from Taupiri Bay. Graham and I spent a week there in May 2008, and finding two *Clanculus peccatus* (though neither is quite perfect) was a real highlight. We have visited Taupiri regularly over the years and sometimes found absolutely nothing of interest. And on most occasions it doesn't look promising, until you settle down among the dry, often sparse debris at the high tide line and look carefully for little treasures. I will move every single bit of dry seaweed if I have the time, and perseverance does pay off. Over our week there in May, as well as the *C. peccatus* we found *Pictobalcis*

articulata, *Trivia merces* and a small but nicely orange *Prototyphis eos*. Since I have a very limited tolerance of micro-molluscs (ie shells I can't really see), I can only guess at the really tiny treasures we left behind.

The NZ checklist* identifies three species in the genus *Clanculus* (family Trochidae). Two are found only at the Kermadec Islands and the third is *Clanculus peccatus*, endemic and found in the Aupourian region (from the Kaipara Harbour, north around North Cape, encompassing the Three Kings Islands and south to East Cape). Powell** identifies Great Barrier Island, Shoal Bay reef, Tryphena as the type locality for *C. peccatus*, and Cape Maria van Diemen as an alternative source. The only other location that we have found this species is at the southern end of Te Werahi Beach, north of Cape Maria van Diemen. Our two latest examples from Taupiri are both adult size (approx 10mm high) with good colour though both have sustained some damage around their aperture. PAT LAKEMAN

* *Checklist of the Recent Mollusca described from the NZ Exclusive Economic Zone*. Spencer, HG., RC Willan, BA Marshall & TJ Murray. 2002. http://www.molluscs.otago.ac.nz/index.html

** *NZ Mollusca: Marine, Land and Freshwater Shells*. Powell, AWB. 1979. Collins.

Dosinia anus
(Philippi 1848)

During the first week in February 2008, following Tropical Cyclone Gene, rough seas in the Bay of Plenty saw many shells washed up on beaches in the region. Due to their size, *Dosinia anus* were very noticeable, to the extent that a photo of the wash up on Ohope Beach appeared in The Whakatane Beacon, Friday February 8, 2008 (right).

Photo courtesy The Whakatane Beacon

Because our holiday started as the seas were calming down, we were able to collect many of the shells still on the beach. The largest *D. anus* collected (left) measured 77.53mm at its widest point. *Dosinia subrosea* were also big for the species but far less numerous than *D. anus*. SELWYN BRACEGIRDLE

New shell for the Chathams?

Excursion to the Chathams, October 2007

by Bert van Tiggele

On 24 October 2007 I left for Wellington Airport very excited. It was my first journey to the Chatham Islands, with Wellington Shell Club members Jenny Raven, Pat Lakeman and Doreen Burr.

As a European, I had never dreamt I would have a chance to see an island like this, so far from my home country, The Netherlands.

If possible, I wanted to see the tree carvings of the Moriori and to collect as many different mollusc species as I could, for my relatively new New Zealand shell collection.

Before I left, I had read some books about Chatham Island (Rekohu) and it was clear to me, it was a very special island with its own flora, fauna and, importantly for shell collectors, endemic mollusc species.

On our tour around the island, I was surprised by its beauty, and at some places a moon-like landscape – trees suffering from the dominating westerly winds.

Most impressive for me were the Moriori tree carvings (Dendroglyphs) in the Hapupu Reserve – about half an hour by car from Kaingaroa on the north east coast of the Island.

Picture of a carving, with Bert van Tiggele, in Hapupu Reserve.

It is sad that from thousands of tree carvings there are no more than about 150 carvings left.

Also these carvings are now under threat by beetles, (May 2008) attacking the Karaka or Kopi trees (*Corynocarpus laevigatus*) and so the carvings.

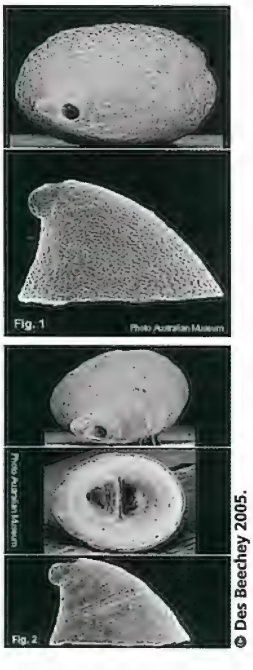
Let's hope the carvings will survive.

During our stay on the Island we hired a car, so we could move around the island as much as possible and collect shells on different beaches.

Where possible I took sand samples. I did not find really good sand material, because the weather had been too rough and most of the material in the sand was worn or broken.

I collected shell material at:

Waitangi Beach (W)
Owenga beach (O)
Port Hutt (PH)
Kaingaroa (K)
Taupeka Point (TP)



At Kaingaroa Beach, I found my first *Calliostoma (M.) tigris* (Gmelin, 1791) a beautiful one!

Later at home on looking into the sand material, I was surprised I had collected many more different but small (<10 mm) shell species.

One of these species was *Puncturella (Vacerrena) demissa* (Hedley, 1904) collected from Owenga on a craypot.

I was supprised this little shell (2 mm) was not on John Marston's list *The molluscs of the Chatham Islands,* 1994 – in a previous *Cookia.*

Maybe there are Club members that have found this shell before on the Chatham Islands?

Here is a description* of the shell:

Puncturella (Vacerrena) demissa (Hedley, 1904)

This remarkable shell has a periostracum of small scales, resembling the girdle of some chitons (Fig. 1). When in place, the scales may be uniformly black, white, brown or in bands of these colours. When the shell surface is removed it is more or less white, marked with shallow pits where the scales were attached (Fig. 2).

Puncturella demissa was described by Hedley in 1900 from a specimen with the scales missing. Later he recognized a Sydney (Australia) specimen with the scales in tact as *P. demissa* and Iredale in 1924 renamed that specimen as *Vacerra demissa.*

The shell is tall, oval or elongated-oval, widest centrally. Apex near or overhanging posterior margin, backwards pointing and recurved. Anterior slope convex, posterior slope concave. Slit at top, oval shape. Septum internally, straight edged, occupying about one quarter of the shell height.

* description source: http://seashellsofnsw.org.au/Fissurellidae/Pages/Puncturella_kesteveni%20.htm (website of The Shells of New South Wales, Des Beechey, Senior Fellow, Australian Museum)

Selenizone is absent. Shell covered with periostracum of dense scales which when removed, leave a surface marked with short grooves. Occasionally with weak, broad, low folds at the margin. Periostracum scales black, fawn or white, sometimes in concentric bands. Shell white externally and internally.

Size:

Up to 3 mm in length

Distribution:

New Zealand and Australia.

Habitat: Beach grit and down to 180m. Moderately common.

Synonymy: *Puncturella (Puncturella) kesteveni* Hedley, 1900, *Puncturella demissa* Hedley, 1904, *Vacerra demissa menda* Iredale, 1924, *Vacerra menda* Iredale, 1924

I strongly recommend a visit to the Chatham Islands if possible and I thank all my shell friends for the lovely time I had on the Island.

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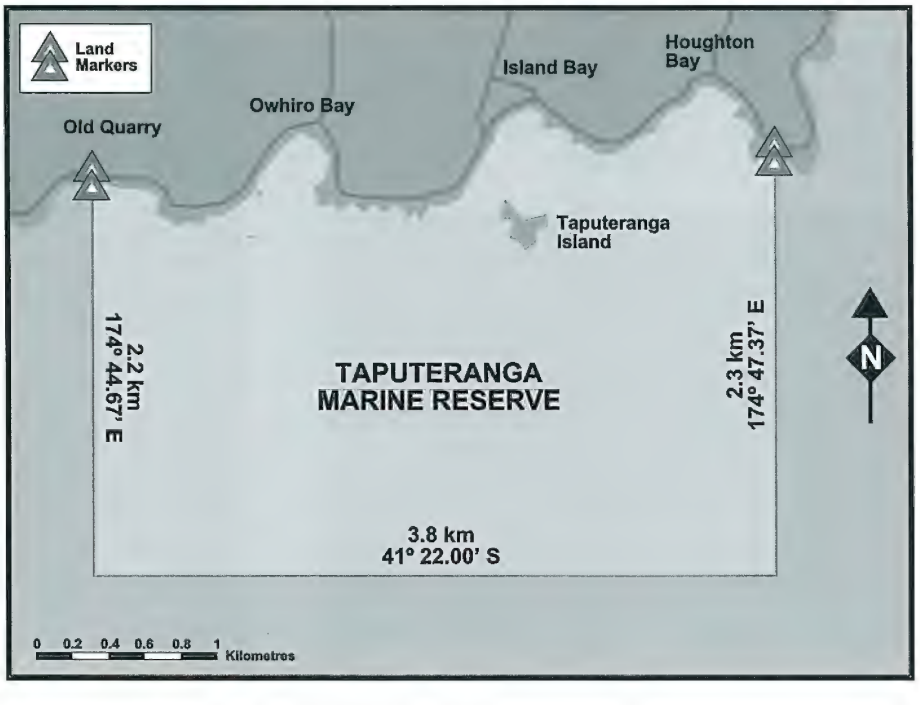
Taputeranga Marine Reserve

by Selwyn Bracegirdle

The Taputeranga Marine Reserve along the south coast of Wellington came into existence on 7 September 2008. It is prohibited to collect live, dead, empty or partial shells, and any marine life, on the beaches within the reserve from the Old Quarry west of Owhiro Bay to east of Princess Bay. However, shells can be collected from above the 'mean high water springs'. The map (right) gives details of the reserve's location. It will be interesting to observe over time any change in variety or abundance of mollusc species appearing within the reserve.

For more information on the reserve refer to www.conservation.govt.nz



Wellington Shell Club 2007-2008

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2008 Membership Fees: Single $15 • Family $20 • Overseas $30

Cookia Contributions

Members and other readers are invited to submit contributions (handwritten, typed or electronic) but, preferably, these should be in the Editor's hand before the end of May for inclusion in that year's issue (look at a recent issue to see the style to follow).

Please use (unless there is a stated reason not to do so given in your manuscript) the molluscan names in the latest *Checklist of the Recent Mollusca described from the New Zealand Exclusive Economic Zone* by H G Spencer, R C Willan, B A Marshall and T J Murray – which is periodically updated at:

www.molluscs.otago.ac.nz/index.html

Authors should also save the editor work by checking the spelling of these names very carefully. Following standard practice, in long lists of species the species names should NOT be listed in alphabetical order but in systematic sequence (with Family headings) as in the 'Checklist'. Bruce Marshall, our 'resident malacologist', is very willing to check identifications or species names for any members who would like his help. Please take advantage of this generous offer. The Editor is always happy to discuss proposed contributions with members.

***Checklist of the Recent Mollusca described from the New Zealand Exclusive Economic Zone*:**

This electronic checklist is a compilation of information that has already been published; it does not contain any original name changes or new records. Therefore, it can be regarded as a "tool of convenience" giving the latest names and where to find the publications in which any new changes will have appeared. New name changes are regularly given in a section entitled "Recent Changes to the Web Page" with a reference to the publication in which the change was made. This list is linked to our website. The Mollusca Section library at the Museum of New Zealand Te Papa Tongarewa is the most comprehensive collection of the world literature on Mollusca in the country, and the original sources of any name changes can easily be consulted, by arrangement with Bruce Marshall, if needed.

Wellington Shell Club Publications

Cookia is the journal of the Wellington Shell Club and is published annually, containing articles and smaller items of interest on shells, shell collecting, and molluscs as well as other related marine topics.

Cookia was first published in 1976; prior to this the Club published a *Circular*, then a *Bulletin*, as well as occassional *Study Notes* on various families of Mollusca.

PUBLICATIONS TO DATE

1956–1965 *Circular* 1 to 21
1967–1975 *Bulletin* 1 to 36
1976–1977 *Cookia* Volume 1, Nos 1, 2, 3
1977–1978 *Cookia* Volume 2, Nos 1, 2, 3
1979–1980 *Cookia* Volume 3, Nos 1, 2, 3
1980–1981 *Cookia* Volume 4, Nos 1, 2, 3
1982–1984 *Cookia* Volume 5, Nos 1, 2, 3, 4
1985–1992 *Cookia* Volume 6, Nos 1, 2, 3, 4
1993–1996 *Cookia* Volume 7, Nos 1, 2, 3, 4 [Index]
1997 *Cookia* Volume 8
1998 *Cookia* Volume 9
1999 *Cookia* Volume 10
2000 *Cookia* Volume 11
2001 *Cookia* Volume 12
2002 *Cookia* Volume 13
2003 *Cookia* Volume 14 [The Shell Lists]
2003 *Cookia* Volume 15
2004 *Cookia* Volume 16
2005 *Cookia* Volume 17
2006 *Cookia* Volume 18
2007 *Cookia* Volume 19
(*Cookia* Volume 7, No 4, is an index of all articles in the Club's publications to 1996)

BACK ISSUES

Back issues of *Cookia* are available at cost plus postage; individual articles, and copies of the Bulletins, Circulars and Study Notes can be ordered at 10c per page plus postage, from Jill Burnet, 84 Brougham Street, Mt Victoria, Wellington, New Zealand; or see our homepage at **www.clublist.co.nz/Club_Websites/ Wellington_Shell_Club.aspx**

ZOOMING IN – HOW WELL DO YOU KNOW THAT SHELL? ANSWERS

1 – Calliostoma waikanae • 2 – Astraea heliotropium • 3 – Dosinia anus
4 – Semicassis pyrum • 5 – Austrofusus glans • 6 – Provocator mirabilis
7 – Tucetona laticostata • 8 – Perna canaliculus • 9 – Penion cuvierianus

Zooming in – how well do you know the shell?

Identify the nine NZ shells below from the photographic portion shown. Answers are on page twenty.